

**USING A MECHANICAL STOP FOR DETERMINING AN  
OPERATING PARAMETER OF A DATA HANDLING DEVICE**

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**Abstract of the Disclosure**

Several readings of an actuator's location are taken with a given  
head while urging the actuator against a mechanical stop, which acts as a  
guide. These readings are useful, for example, for estimating certain offsets  
10 or for determining a nominal track range for a data surface.